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United Nations Regional Centre for Peace, Disarmament and Development in Latin America and the Caribbean

Report of the Secretary-General

Summary

The present report describes the activities of the United Nations Regional Centre for Peace, Disarmament and Development in Latin America and the Caribbean during the period from July 2008 to June 2009.

During the reporting period, the Centre carried out its mandate within the framework of its 2008-2011 Strategic Plan, and tailored its delivery of practical disarmament measures to the needs of the region by focusing its assistance to Member States on the issue of armed violence, which had been identified as a primary security concern in the region. Building on its previous public security initiatives, the Centre contributed to the development of plans to reduce and prevent armed violence from an arms control perspective. In particular, the Centre continued to assist in building the capacity of States to implement multisectoral responses to combat illicit firearms trafficking. Working with partners, it also undertook assessments of armed violence phenomena specifically in border areas, in order to develop targeted assistance packages for the affected Member States.

The reporting period also saw increased advocacy and outreach efforts by the Centre and its partners to promote the implementation of small arms disarmament instruments, and to support policymaking in the countries of the region. The Centre additionally contributed to raising awareness regarding the benefits to Member States of implementing non-proliferation instruments.

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Institutionally, the Centre responded to the needs of the region by strengthening its Public Security Programme, with the support of donors. The Centre's dependency on extrabudgetary funds for both projects and its operational costs continued to represent a challenge during the reporting period, and the Centre has therefore intensified its resource mobilization efforts to guarantee the sustainability of its operation.

The Secretary-General wishes to express his gratitude to the Governments of Colombia, Denmark, Guyana, Mexico, Panama, Peru, Spain, Sweden, Turkey and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, as well as the Preparatory Commission for the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty Organization, for their generous financial contributions to the Centre and for their support of its activities.

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I. Introduction

1. In its resolution A/63/74, the General Assembly requested the Secretary-General to provide from the regular budget, starting in the biennium 2010-2011, the necessary support to ensure the sustainability of the core activities and operations of the Regional Centre, in order to enable it to carry out its programme of activities in accordance with its mandate. The Assembly also requested the Secretary-General to report to it at its sixty-fourth session on the implementation of the resolution.

2. The present report is submitted pursuant to that request and covers the Centre's activities from July 2008 to June 2009. A financial statement on the status of the Trust Fund for the Centre for the year 2008 is contained in annex I. An outline of planned activities of the Centre for which funding is being sought is provided in annex II.

II. Functioning and mandate

3. The United Nations Regional Centre for Peace, Disarmament and Development in Latin America and the Caribbean, located in Lima, Peru, was established in 1987, pursuant to General Assembly resolution 41/60 J. The Centre is mandated to provide, upon request, substantive support for the initiatives and other activities of the Member States in the region for the implementation of measures for peace and disarmament and for the promotion of economic and social development.

III. Activities

4. Armed violence has been identified as the prime public security threat in the Latin American and Caribbean region. During the reporting period, the Centre focused on activities such as law enforcement capacity-building initiatives, the destruction of firearms, the organization of seminars, the development of practical diagnostics and the elaboration of innovative project proposals, that address the challenges posed by armed violence.

5. In addition, the Centre contributed to promoting interregional cooperation and multilevel responses, to address armed violence risk factors, such as illicit firearms trafficking and transfers of other conventional weapons. This was achieved through the promotion of conventional and small arms disarmament instruments, and assisting countries of the region in the area of policy development.

6. In an effort to sustain the long-standing partnership between the Centre and Member States of the region to stem the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction, the Centre continued to lend support to Member States in their implementation of non-proliferation instruments by carrying out joint ad hoc advocacy activities.

7. The Centre also acted as a focal point in the field for the Coordinating Action on Small Arms (CASA) mechanism, and collaborated with its principal partners, in particular: the Organization of American States (OAS); the country offices of the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime; other relevant United Nations system agencies and programmes, as well as national stakeholders.

A. Armed violence and public security

8. In the Latin American and Caribbean region, armed violence breeds insecurity, and encumbers democratic consolidation and regional integration, as well as economic and social development, which hampers the efforts of States to attain the Millennium Development Goals.

9. Incidences of armed violence caused by firearms and the number of small arms and light weapons in circulation are on the rise throughout the region, in particular in urban settings and border areas, and this represents a major security concern for many States. Recent statistics indicate that there are between 45 million and 80 million firearms in the region;[1] and that the Latin American and Caribbean region reports the highest level of firearms-related homicides in the world.[2]

1. Law enforcement capacity-building

10. The Centre approached the challenge of combating armed violence from a "firearms control" perspective, by strengthening local and national law enforcement capacities to curb illicit trafficking. Training initiatives to increase these capacities were at the forefront of the Centre's interventions in Brazil and Colombia during the period covered by the present report. The Centre's trademark Training the Trainers methodology in "firearms investigative techniques" for the law enforcement community was the subject of two national courses held in Colombia[3] and one course in Brazil.[4] The Centre also expanded the scope of its national training methodology to focus on border control issues through the "tri-border" training course which was organized in Leticia, Colombia,[5] and which benefited law enforcement officials from Brazil, Colombia and Peru.

11. These training courses addressed the problems of illicit trafficking, manufacturing, circulation and trade, as well as collection and destruction of small arms and light weapons, among others. They also emphasized the need to combat these illicit activities through effective coordination between the various national law enforcement entities such as the police, customs, the judiciary, and the armed forces.

12. Since the inception of the Training the Trainers methodology in 2002, the Centre and its partners have trained over 2,500 male and female law enforcement officials in urban and border areas throughout 30 States in the region. This resulted in increased coordination, both at the inter- and intra-State levels, among the networks of police, customs, armed forces, and other entities, which is essential for the effective implementation of international firearms instruments, including the 2001 Programme of Action to Prevent, Combat and Eradicate the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects, in which States would undertake

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[1] *Small Arms Survey 2004: Rights at Risk* (Oxford, Oxford University Press, 2004), chapter summary: "From chaos to coherence? Global firearms stockpiles".

[2] Secretariat of the Geneva Declaration on Armed Violence and Development, *Global Burden of Armed Violence* (Geneva 2008).

[3] National Training the Trainers Course, held in Villavicencio, Colombia, from 28 November to 5 December 2008 and in Santa Maria, Colombia, from 9 to 20 February 2009.

[4] National Training the Trainers Course, held in Brasilia, from 17 to 28 November 2008.

[5] Tri-border Training the Trainers Course, held from 25 August to 5 September 2009.

to cooperate in their efforts to deal with illicit trafficking in firearms (see A/CONF.192/15, chap. IV).

13. In addition, the public security infrastructure in Costa Rica was improved by the creation of the subregional public security training platform to prevent illicit firearms trafficking. The El Murciélago Police Training Academy, with support from the Centre, was officially inaugurated on 30 September 2008, and is specifically aimed at improving the Government's efforts to improve public security planning and the management of security-related activities.

2. Assistance in weapons destruction

14. The Centre has also approached armed violence from a "supply" perspective, by supporting the destruction of weapons to reduce the number of firearms in circulation. During the reporting period, the Centre and the OAS Public Security Department provided technical assistance to the Peruvian National Police, in collaboration with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Peru, during the final phase of a four-stage destruction process. This final phase involved the destruction of 14,164 firearms in October 2008, bringing the total number of weapons destroyed to 42,536 since November 2007.

15. Building on this work, the Centre, in collaboration with OAS, and funded primarily by the Government of Spain, developed a "Best practice manual on the destruction of surplus and/or obsolete weapons", in November 2008. This compilation of best practices provides detailed technical information on, inter alia, the planning phase, logistical resources and monitoring and verification procedures related to the destruction of weapons.

3. Regional dialogue on armed violence policies

16. As a follow-up to the Armed Violence and Development Seminar held in La Antigua, Guatemala, in April 2008, the Centre further collaborated with the Government of Spain and the UNDP Bureau for Crisis Prevention and Reduction in organizing a second subregional seminar on armed violence and development, which took place in Cartagena, Colombia, from 20 to 23 April 2009. The seminar targeted the Central American States, Cuba, Colombia, the Dominican Republic and Mexico, civil society organizations, and involved relevant United Nations system agencies and programmes.

17. With a view to translating the Geneva Declaration on Armed Violence and Development into practical actions in the field, the second subregional seminar referred to above provided participants with an overview of the key elements necessary for the development of armed violence prevention programmes and strategies, through the elaboration of practical action plans or "road maps". This collaborative regional work constituted a foundation for further armed violence activities in the subregion, and a similar exercise is being planned for the Caribbean region.

4. Assessments of armed violence in border areas

18. Armed violence in the region is particularly complex in border areas. These areas can become a "no man's land" where criminal groups involved in trafficking arms, persons and drugs and in money-laundering are able to create a parallel

society in total disregard of the law. This phenomenon has been addressed by the Centre at the national level in Ecuador, and at the subregional level in Central America, beginning with a series of assessments to pinpoint the specific nature of the problem in each region.

19. In Central America, the Centre, in coordination with the UNDP Central American Programme on Small Arms Control, examined the issue of border security and, in particular, the points of entry of illicit firearms as well as the existing security infrastructure in place to restrict illicit trafficking. An assessment of border control gaps, supported by the Centre and UNDP, was used to formulate an action plan for the delivery of technical assistance to States of the Central American Integration System subregion on border security issues related to the control of illicit firearms.

20. The Centre also undertook a firearms baseline study in the Northern Border Zone of Ecuador to examine the impact of illicit firearms and their trafficking on the population and on development of that area. Using the findings of the baseline study, which was completed in September 2008, and presented to the Ecuadorian authorities in March 2009, the Centre partnered with the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and UNDP to develop a technical assistance package aimed at addressing armed violence and reducing the effects of trafficking in the Northern Border Zone.

21. At the request of the UNDP country office and the Government of Ecuador, the Centre also undertook an evaluation of the National Firearms Register with a view to providing recommendations for its modernization. This initiative was aimed at, among other things, ensuring that the system: meets the evolving needs of the Government in the area of firearms licensing and registration; reduces the occurrence of fraudulent firearms-related activities by encouraging compliance among firearms owners; and facilitates the judiciary process. As a direct result of this evaluation, the Centre, with the support of UNDP, developed a long-term project proposal to modernize the Register. The findings of this evaluation were presented to the Joint Command of the Armed Forces and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in March 2009.

22. In addition, the Centre further assisted Ecuador by providing technical advice to the UNDP-Ecuador country office in order to support governmental agencies in their implementation of the national citizen security plan.

5. Proposals for combating armed violence

23. Finally, the problem of armed violence was approached from a "policy and legislative" perspective. The Centre developed a Firearms Policy and Legal Planning Assistance Package for Caribbean States, in close consultation with interested States, in particular Antigua and Barbuda, Jamaica, Trinidad and Tobago and the United Kingdom. This package, which was not yet funded at the time of the writing of the present report, offers to develop national mechanisms for coordination and planning on firearms issues; and includes technical assistance to draw up national firearms action plans and prepare national reports. It also recommends greater conformity of national legislations with international instruments, and promotes dialogue among national entities on firearms-related issues.

24. In summary, the Centre's efforts during the reporting period in the area of firearms control, focused on assisting Member States in their efforts to combat armed violence in Central America and prevent illicit firearms trafficking, in particular in Colombia. To that end, it provided States with technical advice drawn from international best practices and with the necessary tools to reduce armed violence and its effects on public security.

B. Conventional and small arms instruments

25. For many years, the Latin American and Caribbean States have been strongly committed to reducing the trafficking of illicit arms. As a result, regional approaches to the implementation of the United Nations Programme of Action and other firearms-related instruments reflect a willingness to base actions on practical considerations, and on the situation in each country.

26. In this regard, the Centre undertook joint efforts with States in the region to strengthen their implementation of firearms instruments and provided assistance in the development of policies, which is essential for addressing the link between armed violence and illicit firearms trafficking. This was accomplished through the following national and regional assistance activities:

27. The High Representative for Disarmament Affairs addressed the Conference on the Control of International Arms Transfers, organized by the Asociación para Políticas Públicas, the Consejo Argentino para las Relaciones Internacionales, and the Universidad de San Andrés, held in Buenos Aires on 1 and 2 December 2008. The Centre proved to be a useful resource for participants during the Conference.

28. The Centre organized, in coordination with the UNDP Bureau for Crisis Prevention and Reduction and the Government of Spain, the "Fourth Seminar on Small Arms and Light Weapons: Degrees of Implementation of the United Nations Programme of Action and the Project on the Arms Trade Treaty", from 16 to 20 February 2009 in Cartagena, Colombia. The seminar provided Member States with an opportunity to review the conclusions of the 2008 Biennial Meeting of States on the United Nations Programme of Action and to explore common approaches in preparation for the 2010 Meeting.

29. On 24 and 25 February 2009, the Centre and the Governments of Peru and Spain organized in Lima a National Workshop on the International Instrument to Enable States to Identify and Trace, in a Timely and Reliable Manner, Illicit Small Arms and Light Weapons. With the collaboration of the Peruvian National Firearms Commission, the workshop examined the capacity of participating Peruvian governmental entities to implement the instrument.

30. With a view to promoting the effective implementation of the Protocol against the Illicit Manufacturing of and Trafficking in Firearms, Their Parts and Components and Ammunition, supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime, and other related instruments, the Centre supported the efforts of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime in the Caribbean region by participating in the Regional Workshop to Promote the Firearms Protocol, held in Bridgetown from 3 to 5 June 2009.

31. Furthermore, the Centre participated at the Regional Workshop to Promote Discussion on an Arms Trade Treaty among States of the Latin American and

Caribbean region, held in Mexico City on 18 and 19 June 2009. The workshop was jointly sponsored by the European Union and the United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research.

C. Promoting non-proliferation in the region

32. In response to the statement of the United Nations Secretary-General to the East-West Institute in New York in October 2008, in which he offered a five-point proposal on nuclear disarmament, the Centre stepped up its partnership with international organizations and other entities dealing with issues related to the non-proliferation of weapons of mass destruction and disarmament. These partnerships led to several disarmament advocacy activities in the region during the reporting period, as indicated below.

1. Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty

33. Cooperation with the Provisional Technical Secretariat of the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty Organization, initiated in 2002 to promote the universalization of the Treaty throughout the Latin American and Caribbean region, continued during the reporting period. Following the accession to the Treaty by Barbados and Colombia early in 2008, the Centre and the Provisional Technical Secretariat focused their advocacy work on the remaining non-party States to the Treaty, namely: Dominica, Guatemala, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines and Trinidad and Tobago.

34. In addition to raising awareness regarding the obligations and benefits of acceding to the Treaty, including civil and scientific applications of Treaty monitoring and verification technologies, and on the financial implications for States parties, a network was also created linking national representatives with the Centre, the Provisional Technical Secretariat, and Austria and Costa Rica, in their capacities as co-chairs of the Article XIV conference, in order to ensure appropriate and effective follow-up with States that initiated signature and ratification processes.

35. In support of these initiatives, and building on the momentum gained regarding the Treaty among Central American and Caribbean countries, a Ministerial Meeting on a Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty Adherence for Latin American and the Caribbean Region took place on 29 and 30 September 2008, in San José, Costa Rica. This meeting, which immediately followed the Fourth Biennial Ministerial Meeting in support of the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty,[6] heightened interest in the Treaty and further encouraged the adherence of all States of the region to the Treaty.

36. Regional Treaty-related consultations and the regional Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty meeting referred to above proved to be effective in promoting and advancing the debate at the national level on matters related to Treaty signature and ratification, as well as raising awareness of the importance of prioritizing initiatives promoting adherence to disarmament and non-proliferation

[6] The Fourth Biennial Ministerial Meeting in Support of the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty was held in New York on 24 September 2008.

treaties. Most notably, the advocacy initiatives led to clear advances in the national processes of accession to the Treaty.

2. International Atomic Energy Agency protocols

37. The Centre participated in an awareness-building regional workshop organized in the Dominican Republic from 21 to 24 July 2008 by the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) and the Government of the Dominican Republic, which promoted the signature and ratification of the small quantities protocols of IAEA, its amended small quantities protocols and additional protocols. This initiative built upon an earlier partnership between the Centre and IAEA, in which the Centre had supported the efforts of IAEA to increase awareness of IAEA Safeguards and of the obligations of the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons during a workshop held in Quito, on 5 and 6 April 2006.

3. Security Council resolution 1540 (2004)

38. The Office for Disarmament Affairs organized a regional workshop on the implementation of Security Council resolution 1540 (2004) on the non-proliferation of weapons of mass destruction. The workshop, held in São Paolo, Brazil, from 24 to 28 November 2008, was specifically aimed at countries comprising the Southern Common Market (MERCOSUR) and Associated States. During the workshop, these States received guidelines on the preparation of national reports required under the resolution, guidance on how to set priorities and elaborate specific country action plans, as well as on assistance and cooperation requirements. Highlighting its role as the regional office of the Office for Disarmament Affairs, the Centre made a presentation on its role in facilitating an informal regional network on disarmament and non-proliferation matters, and invited participating countries to make use of the network.

IV. Staffing, financing and administration

39. In accordance with General Assembly resolution 41/60 J, the Centre was established on the basis of existing resources and voluntary contributions made by Member States and interested organizations for its core and programme activities. During the reporting period, voluntary contributions to the Centre's Trust Fund were received in the amount of $467,815.05.[7] Taking into account the fact that some contributions received prior to the reporting period support ongoing activities, the Secretary-General wishes to express his gratitude to the Governments of Colombia, Denmark, Guyana, Mexico, Panama, Peru, Spain, Sweden, Turkey and the United Kingdom, as well as the Preparatory Commission for the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty Organization, for their generous financial contributions to the Centre and for their support of its activities. Information on the status of the Trust Fund for the Centre for 2008 is contained in annex I to the present report.

40. During the reporting period, the Centre continued to face the challenge of depending solely on extrabudgetary funds for both its daily operation and its

[7] Guyana ($997.55), Mexico ($5,000), Panama ($1,000), Peru ($90,000), Spain ($350,817.50) and Turkey ($20,000).

substantive projects; this challenge was further exacerbated by the global financial crisis which affected the ability of donor countries to provide financial support.

41. This prompted the General Assembly to address ways of securing the continuity of some of the Centre's core functions as well as supporting some of its basic daily operations. In that connection, the General Assembly, in paragraph 3 of resolution 63/74, requested the Secretary-General to provide from the regular budget, starting in the biennium 2010-2011, the necessary support to ensure the sustainability of the core activities and operations of the Regional Centre, in order to enable it to carry out its programme of activities in accordance with its mandate.

42. Meanwhile, the paucity of financial resources was further exacerbated by an increase in the cost of living in Lima, the Centre's host city. In this regard, the Secretary-General urges the Government of Peru to continue to honour its commitment as host country, and provide the necessary financial and overall support to the Centre, to offset the rise in the Centre's operating costs.

43. With regard to funding in support of its programmes and projects, the Secretary-General wishes to thank the Government of Sweden, in particular the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (SIDA), which renewed its commitment to the Centre's core funding as well as programmes, in the form of a three-year contribution. The SIDA contribution currently funds three project staff members working on public security projects, as well as the positions of the Centre's deputy director and the administrative assistant.

44. The Secretary-General also wishes to thank the Government of Spain for the renewal of its annual contribution to the Centre, in support of core funding as well as projects. The Spanish contribution supports the positions of three project staff as well as activities undertaken by the Centre to assist countries in confronting armed violence.

45. Furthermore, the contribution of the Government of Denmark has allowed the Centre to recruit a United Nations Volunteer specializing in issues related to armed violence.

46. In this context, the Secretary-General encourages Member States to sponsor candidates for the four Associate Expert positions which the centre has circulated, through the Associate Expert programme administered by the Department of Economic and Social Affairs (see http://esa.un.org/techcoop/associate_experts.asp).

47. In addition, the Centre has benefited from its joint undertakings with key partner organizations, such as OAS, the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and UNDP. These partner organizations assisted the Centre with contributions in-kind as well as cost-sharing arrangements in the execution of peace, disarmament and development-related activities.

V. Conclusion

48. During the reporting period, the Centre continued to carry out its activities within the framework of its 2008-2011 Strategic Plan. In doing so, it tailored the delivery of practical disarmament measures to the needs of the region by focusing its assistance to Member States on the issue of armed violence. Building on previous public security projects, the Centre contributed to a number of initiatives to reduce

and prevent armed violence from an arms control perspective. As a result of the Centre's efforts and joint initiatives, Member States are better equipped to confront armed violence and illicit firearms trafficking, which have a negative impact on sustainable development in the region. Similarly, Member States of the region gained greater access to standardized tools to assist in the development of firearms legislation and small arms policies, which will help their efforts to protect citizens against these major public security threats.

49. Moreover, the Centre increased its advocacy and outreach efforts to promote the universalization of several relevant agreements and treaties, including the implementation of small arms and weapons of mass destruction-related instruments, and assisted States in adopting relevant measures in fulfilling their obligations under these instruments.

50. The Centre continues to face the challenge posed by its dependency on Member States' contributions to support both its operational costs and its projects. The General Assembly responded to this challenge by adopting resolution 63/74.

51. The Secretary-General calls for the continued support and cooperation of Member States and other stakeholders to support the effective operation of the Regional Centre for Peace, Disarmament and Development in Latin America and the Caribbean.

Annex I

Status of the Trust Fund for the United Nations Regional Centre for Peace, Disarmament and Development in Latin America and the Caribbean for 2008

	(United States dollars)
Fund balance, 31 December 2007	1 250 946
Income, 1 January 2008-31 December 2008	
Voluntary contributions	1 146 227
Funds received under inter-organization arrangements	45 845
Interest income	52 231
Other/miscellaneous income	285 184
Subtotal	**2 780 433**
Expenditures, 1 January 2008-31 December 2008	1 389 059
Programme support costs	154 410
Subtotal	**1 543 469**
Prior period adjustments	12
Reserves and fund balance, 31 December 2008	**1 236 976**

Note: The information provided is based on the statement of income and expenditure for 2008. During the period additional contributions totalling $1,192,072.16 were received from: the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty Organization ($45,844.92), Colombia ($2,500), Guyana ($1,014.77), Mexico ($5,000), Panama ($1,000), Peru ($90,000), Spain ($350,817.50), Sweden ($660,894.97), the United Kingdom ($15,000) and Turkey ($20,000). During the period 1 January to 30 June 2009, additional contributions totalling $30,997.55 were received from Guyana ($997.55) and Peru ($30,000).

Annex II

Planned activities of the United Nations Regional Centre for Peace, Disarmament and Development in Latin America and the Caribbean for which funding is sought

Project 1

Title

"First seminar on armed violence and development for Caribbean States"

Purpose

The purpose of this first subregional seminar on armed violence and development is to: (a) promote the Geneva Declaration on Armed Violence and Development, within the Caribbean region; (b) promote measures for armed violence reduction and prevention within the region; (c) exchange best practices and lessons learned in the development and implementation of armed violence reduction and prevention policies, strategies and programmes; and (d) increase intersectoral and interregional cooperation within the Caribbean among Governments, international organizations, civil society and development cooperation agencies.

Location

Kingston

Duration

Three days

Participants

Representatives of the Governments of Antigua and Barbuda, Bahamas, Barbados, Belize, Grenada, Guyana, Haiti, Jamaica, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Suriname, Trinidad and Tobago; and representatives of civil society organizations working on armed violence related issues, international organizations and development cooperation agencies.

Cost estimates

(United States dollars)

Project personnel	26 650.00
Operations and implementation costs	38 207.76
Travel of participants	83 768.00
Travel of experts	0.00
Travel of staff	15 978.00
Interpretation	0.00
Workshop documentation	1 000.00
Total	**165 603.76**

Project II

Title

"Third seminar on armed violence and development: the role of the private security companies"

Purpose

The purpose of the third subregional seminar on armed violence and development is to: (a) analyse the role of private security companies within the problem of armed violence; (b) exchange best practices and lessons learned in the establishment of norms and regulations for private security companies; (c) promote the standardization of training procedures and control mechanisms for the personnel of the security companies; and (d) encourage intersectoral coordination between governmental representatives, private security companies and other relevant actors (e.g., civil society organizations, United Nations entities and development cooperation agencies).

Location

Cartagena, Colombia

Duration

Three days

Participants

Representatives of the Governments of Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, the Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Mexico, Nicaragua and Panama; and representatives of civil society organizations working on armed violence related issues, international organizations and development cooperation agencies.

Cost estimates

(United States dollars)

Project personnel	26 650.00
Operations and implementation costs	40 953.08
Travel of participants	60 134.00
Travel of experts	0.00
Travel of staff	46 996.00
Interpretation	0.00
Workshop documentation	1 000.00
Total	**175 733.08**

Project III

Title

"First national seminar on armed violence and development: exploring national and international response in Brazil"

Purpose

The purpose of the first seminar on armed violence and development is to: (a) gather information on how the Brazilian authorities, together with the United Nations entities, development cooperation agencies and civil society organizations are addressing the problem of armed violence; (b) analyse the context of armed violence in urban cities and the role of youth gangs; (c) exchange best practices and lessons learned in the prevention and reduction of armed violence implemented by national authorities and international agencies; and (d) promote cooperation between the different entities working on the prevention and reduction of armed violence (e.g., national, regional and local authorities; representatives of civil society organizations, United Nations entities and development cooperation agencies).

Location

Rio de Janeiro, Brazil

Duration

Three days

Participants

Representatives of the Ministries of Foreign Affairs, Internal Affairs, Justice, Defence, Education and Health; and national, regional and local authorities; and representatives of civil society organizations working on armed violence related issues, international organizations and development cooperation agencies.

Cost estimates

(United States dollars)

Project personnel	26 650.00
Operations and implementation costs	44 366.87
Travel of participants	58 552.00
Travel of experts	0.00
Travel of staff	24 897.00
Interpretation	9 400.00
Workshop documentation	1 000.00
Total	**164 865.87**